

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 04763 131516Z
ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 USIA-06 /018 W
----- 110414 /42
R 131430Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 455

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 4763

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC, CM
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

REF: (A) YAOUNDE 4139; (B) STATE 282269; (C) YAOUNDE 3525

1. GIVEN RECOMMENDATIONS BY RECENT STATE INSPECTION TEAM, EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE CONTINUATION PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS PROGRAM AND PROVIDING TWO NEW FY 77 GRANTS WHICH GURC WILL UNDOUBTEDLY USE FOR TRANSLATOR-INTERPRETERS (GEROGETOWN PROGRAM).
2. TO REITERATE EMBASSY POSITION, WE CONCUR WITH OBSERVATIONS OF DEPARTMENT THAT MONEY MIGHT BE BETTER SPENT, BUT GIVEN STRONG FEELINGS EXPRESSED IN WRITING BY GURC, WE HAVE NO DOUBT GURC CONSIDERS THIS PROGRAM HIGHEST POSSIBLE PRIORITY IN CONTEXT CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH UNITED STATES.
3. EMBASSY JUDGMENT ON CONTINUATION, SUPPORTED BY INSPECTION, IS THAT ACCOMMODATION IN THIS MATTER LIKELY FACILITATE EMBASSY DEALINGS WITH GURC IN OTHER CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROJECTS. FOR EXAMPLE, DECISION TO CONTINUE PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS PROGRAM WILL MAKE IT EASIER FOR US TO URGE QUICKER GURC ACTION IN PROVIDING NOMINEES FOR OTHER PROJECTS.
4. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS CAREFUL REREADING BY DEPARTMENT OF PARA 3 IN YAOUNDE 3525 CONCERNING GURC'S STRONGLY-WORDED ASSERTION OUR FAILURE TO RENEW GRANTS COULD COMPROMISE CAMEROON'S POLICY OF OFFICIAL BILINGUALISM.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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